CLAIMS:

1. A method for attaching a flexible cord handle on a bag comprising the steps of:

forming a pair of apertures through a bag wall,

providing at least one substantially planar obstruction member with at least one cord receiving passageway therethrough,

passing at least one free end of a flexible cord through one of said apertures and into a respective cord receiving passageway of the obstruction member, and

fixing the free end of the cord to the obstruction member by deforming at least a portion of the obstruction member surrounding the cord, and further wherein the greatest dimension of the obstruction member is larger than the aperture in the bag wall.

2. A bag made according to the method of claim 1.

3. A bag according to claim 2 comprising a pair of flexible cord handles adjacent to an open mouth of the bag.

4. A bag according to either claim 2 or 3 comprising a pair of obstruction members for each handle, each obstruction member being fixed to each respective free end of the cord.

5. A bag according to either claim 2 or 3 comprising one obstruction member for each handle wherein each flexible cord handle is engaged by a single obstruction member, each obstruction member having a pair of cord receiving passageways adapted to be fixed to both free ends of each flexible cord handle.

6. A bag according to any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein the obstruction member is positioned on the inside of the bag wall.

7. A bag according to any one of claims 2 to 6 wherein the cord is made of woven polyethylene strands.

8. A bag according to any one of claims 2 to 7 wherein the bag is constructed from a flexible material preferably, paper, light cardboard, plastic film or fabric.

9. A substantially planar obstruction member when used in a method for providing a flexible cord handle on a bag according to claim 1, which member is suitable for attachment to a free end of a flexible cord handle, the obstruction member comprising a wall portion with a cord receiving passageway therethrough adapted to engage the flexible cord wherein the

greatest dimension of the wall portion is substantially larger than the diameter of the flexible cord.

10. An obstruction member as in claim 9 wherein the obstruction member is produced from metal, wood, rubber, plastic, compressed fibres.

11. An obstruction member according to either one of claims 9 or 10 wherein the obstruction member is constructed from a resilient material with the undeformed diameter of the cord receiving passageway being smaller than the diameter of the flexible cord.

12. An obstruction member according to any one of claim 9 to 11 wherein the obstruction member includes a plurality of inwardly directed prongs, ridges or the like adapted to grip and hold the flexible cord passing through the cord receiving passageway.

13. An obstruction member according to any one of claims 9 to 12 wherein the obstruction member is fixed to the cord by means of an adhesive or by directly moulding the obstruction member onto the cord.

14. An apparatus for attaching a flexible cord handle to a bag wall, said apparatus comprising a cord supply means for providing a length of flexible cord, a bag wall supply means for providing a bag wall with a pair of apertures therethrough, and, an obstruction member supply means for providing at least one substantially planar obstruction member for each length of cord, each obstruction member having at least one cord receiving passageway therethrough adapted to receive and hold the cord, said apparatus further comprising a cord insertion means for passing each free end of the length of cord on a first side of said wall through a respective aperture in the cord receiving passageway of a respective obstruction member on an opposite side of the bag wall and fixing each free end to that respective obstruction member.

15. An apparatus according to claim 14 wherein the obstruction member supply means provides pairs of obstruction members for each flexible cord handle.

16. An apparatus according to either claim 14 or 15 wherein a single obstruction member may be used for attachment to both free ends of the flexible cord handle.

17. An apparatus according to any one of claims 14 to 16 wherein the cord insertion means includes a spreader means adapted to temporarily

deform the obstruction member to allow for easy insertion of the cord through the cord receiving passageway.

18. An apparatus according to any one of claims 14 to 17 wherein the free end of the flexible cord handle is doubled back on itself before being inserted into the cord receiving passageway of the obstruction member.